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can say that you're following compact and making a compact and continuous district...contiguous district by separating Gage and Saline County out of that group. And this is one of the pieces, one of the sections in LR 7 that you introduced and that you supported on the floor of the Legislature. I think another section of that resolution that we adopted that in redistricting we shall define districts that are easily identifiable and understandable to the voters, and that preserve the cores of prior districts. I don't think that there's any way in the world that you can take Saline and Gage Counties, put them into the Third Congressional District that they in no way can or ever have identified with, and say that we follow what we adopted and what you voted for, Senator Bromm, as necessary in this congressional redistricting plan. I think that there has been much to-do in the redistricting hearing made by Madison County and, God bless them, I can understand. They're doing everything they can to preserve Congressman Bereuter as their congressman.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR BYARS: We, on the other hand, Gage County, really had no opportunity to present a united front. We could have speculated that this might happen to us; but according to the resolution that this body passed, there is no way that we could see that this would be any...anywhere fathomable that you would take Madison County and saying it's contiguous to the district and Gage County is not. And I challenge you for all the points of economic development, population, community of interest, county lines, you're splitting the county of Gage. We're just putting it back together legislatively after ten years and now you're wanting to split it into two congressional districts. It just does not make any sense to me, Senator Bromm. I think the citizens of Gage County would have liked to have had an opportunity to speak to this subject, but I...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR BYARS: Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Byars. Senator Schimek, on the Bromm amendment to the committee amendments.